

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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P R 241540Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2328

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1385

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (BIJEDIC, DZEMAL) US YO

SUBJECT: BIJEDIC STATEMENT ON US VISIT

REF: BELGRADE 1360

1. PREMIER BIJEDIC RETURNED FROM US MARCH 23, ARRIVING BELGRADE AIRPORT 12:30 PM. AIRPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT RECORDED FROM TV COVERAGE FOLLOWS. STATEMENT ALSO CARRIED ABBREVIATED FORM BELGRADE PRESS.

2. "WE ARE RETURNING FROM A FOUR-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DURING WHICH WE HELD TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD, SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN, TRADE MINISTER DENT, ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE INGERSOLL, AND A NUMBER OF MOST PROMINENT OFFICIALS, ESPECIALLY PEOPLE FROM THE BUSINESS WORLD. DURING THE VISIT TO NEW YORK, I ALSO TALKED WITH UN GENERAL SECRETARY KURT WALDHEIM.

"IN ALL THESE TALKS, VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED ON A NUMBER OF VARIED MATTERS IN THE SPHERE OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO OUR RELATIONS AND MATTERS CONCERNED WITH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THE TALKS WHICH I HAVE HAD WITH PRESIDENT FORD (THIS I WANT TO STATE AT THE BEGINNING) TOOK UNCLASSIFIED

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PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF OPENNESS AND CORDIALITY. ON THAT

OCCASION THE MUTUAL DESIRE WAS EXPRESSED THAT - IN SPITE OF KNOWN EXISTING DIFFERENCES IN VIEWPOINTS, ESPECIALLY ON CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL MATTERS AND PROBLEMS - FURTHER WAYS SHOULD BE FOUND FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE, BOTH IN MUTUAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

"AS HAS BEEN POINTED OUT IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, THE USA HAS UNAMBIGUOUSLY CONFIRMED ITS DESIRE FOR AND INTEREST IN COOPERATION WITH INDEPENDENT, NONALIGNED YUGOSLAVIA ON THE BASIS OF THE WELL-KNOWN PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN THE DECLARATION OF PRESIDENT TITO AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1971, WHICH PRESIDENT FORD ESPECIALLY EMPHASIZED DURING THE TALKS.

"I WANT TO NOTE PARTICULARLY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TALKS WITH BUSINESSMEN AND THE INTEREST SHOWN IN THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF TRADE, FINANCIAL COOPERATION, JOINT VENTURES, AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION IN WHICH THERE ARE STILL LARGE AND UNUSED OPPORTUNITIES.

"I THINK THAT THIS VISIT TO THE USA AND THE TALKS WHICH WE HAVE JUST HELD HAVE CREATED AN EVEN MORE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE EXPANSION AND PROMOTION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH, I MUST NOTE, HAVE BEEN MARKED SO FAR BY REMARKABLE PROGRESS.

"I WANT TO AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK PRESIDENT FORD AND THE US GOVERNMENT ONCE AGAIN FOR THE WARM AND CORDIAL HOSPITALITY AND ATTENTION EXTENDED TO US DURING THE VISIT WHICH WILL, I AM CONFIDENT, MARK A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

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